



## Richard Rhodes

August 14, 1946 - April 13, 2017

### Obituary for Richard Rhodes

Richard Thomas Rhodes, age 70, of Columbus, Ohio, did not go gently into that good night on April 13, 2017. Richard grew up in Springfield, Ohio, son of Earl and Patricia Rhodes, both deceased.

A tireless aficionado and practitioner of music, Richard adroitly played most woodwind and brass instruments, and his highly trained ear and musical mastery led him to dazzle folks even on instruments he supposedly couldn't play. He taught music for most of his life, including a long and successful stint as band director at Marion Local High School in Maria Stein, Ohio. He also led the band in Coldwater, where his family lived from 1977 to 1987.

Upon moving back to the Springfield area in 1987, Richard continued his musical journey, working for several music shops, selling and repairing instruments. He spent the last 20 years of his life in the Clintonville neighborhood of Columbus, indulging in his love of books while casting judgment upon his beloved Buckeyes. Richard attended Wittenberg University, ultimately graduating from Ohio State before earning his master's degree at the University of Iowa. Thanks to his incessant reading, he knew everything; before Google, his brain was the family internet.

Richard was a prolific writer of letters, and we who received them grew fond of his appropriated ending line: "Be well, do good work, and keep in touch."

Richard is survived by his sons, Jason and Matthew. He is also survived by brothers Dave and Jeff Rhodes and sisters Pam Olson and Beth Rhodes. His brother Steve beat him to heaven.

In keeping with Richard's wishes, there will be no funeral services. The family asks that in lieu of sending flowers to the family, please make a donation to a local music-related charity in his honor. And, get old school and hand-write a letter to someone you love.

# Previous Events

## Private Funeral Service

APR 13. 7:00 PM (ET)

Adkins Funeral Home  
7055 Dayton Road  
Enon, OH 45323  
(937) 864-2288

# Tribute Wall

JD

“ *Well said. He was a great man. I loved seeing him. He always gave me a good chuckle!* ”

Jeff Dunn - April 19, 2017 at 08:54 AM

DR

“ *My heart is heavy but my memories will continue to make me smile. Your dad was a rock for others and a joy to be with. I will cherish all those memories I had with him.* ”

Dene Rhodes - April 18, 2017 at 08:55 AM

KB

“ *A great tribute to an even greater man. RIP in peace Rick!* ”

Kurt Buddelmeyer - April 17, 2017 at 09:20 PM



“ *5 files added to the tribute wall* ”



Matt Rhodes - April 17, 2017 at 08:57 PM



Jeanny  
Aldrich

*Matt this was a beautiful tribute to your dad. The time I spent with him was short but this is my image. Richard was kind and considerate , he added to the room with wonderful thoughts and stories. He was kind and very generous to us with letters that we received from him. He was a sweet companion to Stacey and I during you wedding week....he will not be forgotten. Bittersweet time*

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**Jeanny Aldrich** - April 18, 2017 at 04:40 AM



Stacey  
Laborde

*Thank you for sharing him with us at your wedding. He was so sweet. His spirit will love on..*

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**Stacey Laborde** - April 18, 2017 at 05:42 PM



SZ

*Uncle Rick was a great inspiration and mentor in my musical upbringing. I will always appreciate all the time and effort he put into me being a better trumpet player. I will miss him very much. I'm sure Rick and dad are giving God a run for his money right now <3 <3*

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**Stephanie Rhodes Zink** - April 18, 2017 at 11:43 PM



JK

*Mr. Rhodes, RTR as he was affectionately known at Marion Local High School, was a very cherished teacher. He was so laid back and had a wicked sense of humor. We were indeed one of the "best bands in the land" under his direction. Those of us from the Class of 1983 at Marion Local often remember the good times we had in the band, especially on the band bus and in band camp. We all loved him and looked forward to our time in the band room.*

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**Jill Kremer** - May 08, 2017 at 06:12 PM